

A. Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing data in a computing system comprising:
 providing a digital sequence in a computing device;
 producing a probabilistically unique identifier [[for a]] from the digital
sequence; and
 comparing said probabilistically unique identifier to a previously stored list
of ~~other~~ identifiers with their corresponding digital sequences; and
 maintaining the list of identifiers based upon the act of comparing.
2. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 adding said probabilistically unique identifier to said list if said
probabilistically unique identifier is not previously in said list.
3. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 removing said probabilistically unique identifier from said list if said
probabilistically unique identifier is previously in said list.
4. (original) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
 adding said digital sequence corresponding to said probabilistically unique
identifier to said list.
5. (original) The method of claim 3 further comprising:
 removing said digital sequence corresponding to said probabilistically
unique identifier from said list.
6. (original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
 adding a correspondence between said digital sequence and said
probabilistically unique identifier for that sequence.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said step of producing comprises:

hashing said digital sequence to produce said ~~probabalistically~~
probabilistically unique identifier.

8. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein said step of hashing is carried out by means of an industry standard digest algorithm.

9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein said step of hashing is carried out by one of an MD4, MD5, SHA or SHA-1 algorithm.

10. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said step of producing comprises:

generating a checksum for said digital sequence to produce said probabilistically unique identifier.

11. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said digital sequence is descriptive meta data of at least one other digital sequence.

12. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said digital sequence is descriptive meta data of at least one probabilistically unique identifier.

13. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said digital sequence describes a method that represents at least one digital sequence.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for managing data in a computing system comprising:

providing a digital sequence in a computing device;

dividing ~~[[a]]~~ the digital sequence into a plurality of shorter digital sequences; and

producing probabilistically unique identifiers ~~[for]~~ from each said plurality of shorter digital sequences; and

comparing said probabilistically unique identifiers to a previously stored list of ~~other~~ identifiers; and

maintaining the list of identifiers based upon the act of comparing.

15. (original) The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of:
dividing said digital sequence into a plurality of shorter digital sequences;
and
producing a like plurality of probabilistically unique identifiers
corresponding to each of said plurality of shorter digital sequences.
16. (original) The method of claim 14 further comprising;
comparing each plurality of identifiers to said list.
17. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said step of dividing produces
said shorter digital sequences having individually variable lengths.
18. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said step of dividing is based
on the content of said digital sequence.
19. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said step of dividing is based
on meta data describing said digital sequence.
20. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said step of dividing produces
said shorter digital sequences having substantially invariable lengths.
21. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said step of producing said like
plurality of probabilistically unique identifiers comprises:
individually hashing said shorter digital sequences to produce said like
plurality of probabilistically unique identifiers.
22. (original) The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of:
adding said plurality of shorter digital sequences and said corresponding
like plurality of probabilistically unique identifiers to said list.
23. (original) The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of:
removing said plurality of shorter digital sequences and said
corresponding like plurality of probabilistically unique identifiers from said list.

24. (original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:
utilizing at least a portion of said probabilistically unique identifier as an
indicator to a location in said list for said step of comparing.
25. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising:
a computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied
therein for managing data, said computer program product comprising:
computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer
to effect producing a probabilistically unique identifier ~~[[for]]~~ from a digital
sequence; and
computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer
to effect comparing said probabilistically unique identifier to a previously stored
list of other identifiers corresponding to other digital sequences.
26. (original) The computer program product of claim 25 further comprising:
computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to
effect adding said probabilistically unique identifier to said list if said
probabilistically unique identifier is not previously in said list.
27. (original) The computer program product of claim 26 further comprising:
computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer
to effect adding said corresponding digital sequence to said list.
28. (original) The computer program product of claim 25 wherein said
computer readable program code devices configured to cause said computer to
effect producing comprises:
computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer
to effect hashing said digital sequence to produce said probabilistically unique
identifier.
29. (original) The computer program product of claim 28 wherein said computer
readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect
hashing is carried out by means of an industry standard digest algorithm.

30. (original) The computer program product of claim 29 wherein said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect hashing is carried out by one of an MD4, MD5, SHA or SHA-1 algorithm.

31. (original) The computer program product of claim 25 wherein said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect producing comprises:

computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect generating a checksum for said digital sequence to produce said probabilistically unique identifier.

32. (original) The computer program product of claim 25 further comprising:
computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect creating a directory list containing said probabilistically unique identifier for said digital sequence.

33. (original) The computer program product of claim 25 further comprising:
computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect dividing said digital sequence into a plurality of shorter digital sequences; and

computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect producing a like plurality of probabilistically unique identifiers corresponding to each of said plurality of shorter digital sequences.

34. (original) The computer program product of claim 33 wherein said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect dividing produces said shorter digital sequences having individually variable length.

35. (original) The computer program product of claim 33 wherein said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect dividing produces said shorter digital sequences having substantially invariable length.

36. (original) The computer program product of claim 33 wherein said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect producing said like plurality of probabilistically unique identifiers comprises:

computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect individually hashing said shorter digital sequences to produce said like plurality of probabilistically unique identifiers.

37. (original) The computer program product of claim 33 further comprising:
computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect adding said plurality of shorter digital sequences and said corresponding like plurality of probabilistically unique identifiers to said list.

38. (original) The computer program product of claim 25 further comprising:
computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect utilizing at least a portion of said probabilistically unique identifier as an index into a table of locations for said list for said step of comparing.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)